

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend paragraph [0034] as follows:

[0034] The associate icon section 855 includes an icon (e.g., an image) of the selected associate. If multiple associate icons are selected to be sent the voice communication, the icons for each recipient will be displayed in the associate icon section 855. Multiple associate icons 20-70 may be chosen individually (e.g., by selecting each associate icon 20-70 while the voice communication tool 850 is open) or by selecting a designated pre-defined relationship category (e.g., selecting a relationship category makes all members of the group a recipient of the communication).

Please amend paragraph [0047] as follows:

[0047] In one embodiment, the e-mail button 910 may initiate a third party e-mail client, such as Microsoft Outlook® from Microsoft Corporation of Redmond, Washington; Netscape Messenger® from America Online, Inc. of Dulles, Virginia; or Eudora® from Qualcomm Incorporated of San Diego, California, among others.

Please amend paragraph [0048] as follows:

[0048] The send button 920 initiates software to transmit a voice communication with the associate associated with the selected associate icon 20-70. The send button 920 enables the user to transmit a voice communication (e.g., a real-time communication, a digital audio file, etc.) via a microphone to the selected associate. The voice mute button 922 enables a user to mute the microphone. The voice play button 921 enables the user to playback a selected received voice communication. The voice stop button 923 allows the user to end a voice communication with the associate

or to stop the playback of a received voice communication. The voice mail button 924 may enable the user to listen to voice mail communications sent by the associate associated with the selected associate icon 20-70. It should be appreciated that the communication tool 900 may also include an associate communication section similar to associate communication section ~~980-880~~ in Figure ~~9-8~~.

Please amend paragraph [0050] as follows:

[0050] In one embodiment, the instant message session may open a communication session with third party instant message software clients such as Yahoo!® ~~Instant Messenger~~ of Yahoo! Inc. of Sunnyvale, California; ~~Microsoft Instant Messenger~~ MSN Messenger of Microsoft® Corporation of Redmond, Washington; or AOL® Instant Messenger™ of America Online, Inc. of Dulles, Virginia, among others.

Please amend paragraph [0053] as follows:

[0053] In one embodiment, the user relationship software application tracks the grouping of multiple associates being sent a communication over time. The user relationship software application may then propose additional associates to send the communication to and/or automatically ~~infers~~ infer which other associates the user is likely to select. In one embodiment, when a user clicks on an associate icon and holds the mouse down, the user relationship software application infers that the communication will go to that associate's entire family.

Please amend paragraph [0055] as follows:

[0055] It should also be understood that the invention is not limited to the communication techniques described herein. In alternative embodiments, other communication techniques, such as video communication may also be implemented. In

one embodiment, the communication tool 900 includes an electronic calendar feature to enable a user to update a calendar event, such as a meeting, an appointment, birthdays, anniversaries, etc. In one embodiment, the user may access the electronic calendar by right-clicking on the user icon 10 and selecting a calendar option or selecting it from the file menu 2.

Please amend paragraph [0089] as follows:

[0089] It should be understood that the associate profile 1100 is not limited to the fields described herein. In alternative embodiments, additional fields may be added to the associate profile 1100. For example, the associate profile 1100 may include a target frequency of contact field, which stores a number of communications a user expects to receive from the related associate within a specific time frame. In this way, the user relationship software application may track the number of communications between the related associate and the user, and notify the user of compliance or non-compliance ~~of~~ with the goal.

Please amend paragraph [00130] as follows:

[00130] The user relationship software application includes a feature to visualize the evolution of a relationship over a specific time period. Figure 18 illustrates an animated progression of relationships over six months according to one embodiment. For example, the user of the user relationship software application may determine to view the evolution of all relationships over a year. The user may initiate this feature by selecting from the tools menu 9. Upon initiating this feature, the user interface 5 may show each associate icon 20-70 ~~move~~ moving based on the evolution of the relationship over the past year. Figure 18 shows the positions of the relationships of associate icon 31a, associate icon 49a, and associate icon 70a six months ago and their migration to their current positions at associate icon 31, associate icon 49, and associate icon 70.

The movement of the associate icons 31, 49, and 70 are shown with shadows 16 to trace the movement. Accordingly, the user interface 5 visualizes that over the past six months, the relationship between the user and the associate associated with associate 31 has gotten stronger, while the relationships between the user and the associate associated with associate icon 49 and associate icon 70 have gotten weaker.

Please amend paragraph [00136] as follows:

[00136] It should be appreciated that the user relationship software application may also generate gifts for an associate, such as a greeting card or a slide show. The exchange of gifts to associates is one way to keep a relationship. Figure 19 illustrates one embodiment of a process flow 1900 to send a greeting card. At block 1910, the user receives an indication of an event (e.g., a birthday, an anniversary, etc.) of an associate. At block 1915, the user relationship software application queries the user whether to generate a greeting card. At block 1917, the user relationship software application receives an indication from the user to not generate a greeting card, and process 1900 ends. At block 1920, the user relationship software application receives an indication from the user to generate a card. At block ~~9125~~ 1925, the user relationship software application provides the user with a list of cards to choose from. At block 1930, the user relationship software application receives an indication of which card the user approves of. At block 1935, the user relationship software application communicates with a greeting card server to order the card. At block 1940, the greeting card server facilitates the sending of the card to the user (e.g., via the United States Postal Service, United Parcel Service, Federal Express, etc.). At block 1945, the user receives the ordered card and a stamped envelope addressed to the mailing address of the associate. The user may write a special message in the card. The user may then mail the card to the associate.